

THE ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF KINGDOM: MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

“Christians Combating the Current Cultural Crisis”

(Ephesians 5:22–24; Colossians 3:18; Genesis 1:28; 2:18, 20, 24)

When we consider marriage, we must come to understand it as a covenant, which is the language of the Temple. So let us consider ...

- Marriage: Contract or Covenant?

Today, marriage and the family are regularly viewed as social conventions that can be entered into and severed by the marital partners at will.

- Contract

By contrast, the Bible makes clear that, at the root, marriage and the family are not human conventions based merely on a temporary consensus and time-honored tradition. Instead, Scripture teaches that family was God’s idea and that marriage is a divine, not merely human, institution.

“What therefore God has joined together let not man separate” (Matt. 19:6)

For this reason, marriage is far more than a human social contract; it is a divinely instituted covenant. So let’s now talk about ...

- Covenant

In essence, a covenant is an agreement between two parties that is established before God as a witness, an agreement whose permanence is ultimately safeguarded by none other than God himself.

- What Is Marriage?

Marriage is a covenant, a sacred bond between a man and a woman instituted by and publicly entered into before God and normally consummated by sexual intimacy. God's plan for the marriage covenant involves at least the following five vital principles:

- The Permanence of Marriage
- The Sacredness of Marriage
- The Intimacy of Marriage
- The Mutuality of Marriage
- The Exclusiveness of Marriage

- How Did Sin Affect Marriage and the Family?

- Polygamy
- Divorce
- Adultery
- Homosexuality
- Gender Confusion

❖ The Restoration of God's Original Design for Marriage and the Family in Christ

There is a restorative process going on in the earth where by God is bringing things full circle - back to the original intent of His heart. Therefore we must see ...

- Marriage as the Temple of God

You cannot be a temple of Jehovah God if there are other gods in your life.

- The Practical Expressions of Idolatry
 - We Worship at the Altar of Materialism
 - We Worship at the Altar of Our Own Pride and Ego
 - We Worship at the Altar of Self-aggrandizement or the Fulfillment of Self to the Exclusion of All Others

All idolatry of self has at its core the three lusts found in 1 John 2:16: *"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."*

- Idolatry is Defeated by the Power of Forgiveness